



Director: Debra K. Kenerson
P.O. Box 41505
Nashville, TN 37204-1505
1-800-626-0987

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

Released Weekly April - November

2005 Weather Crop 03

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Week Ending April 17, 2005

DRIER WEATHER AT WEEK’S END PROVIDES HOPE

Wet conditions at the beginning of last week hindered corn planting until the later part of the week. With drier conditions at week’s end producers almost doubled their planting progress from a week earlier, but were still about five days behind the normal pace. Most of the State’s winter wheat has been top dressed with over four-fifths of the acreage having reached the jointing stage. A fraction of the winter wheat acreage has begun to head. Almost all of the peach trees are budding or beyond, while less than 15 percent of the apples trees have yet to reach this stage of development. Some livestock producers are beginning to greatly reduce hay feeding, as pastures are now providing adequate forage. Pastures and winter wheat conditions continue to improve with sunshine and warmer temperatures. Other field activities during the past week included fertilizing hay fields, repairing equipment, and cotton and soybean land preparation.

There were 3 days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 31 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 76 percent adequate, and 24 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged one to four degrees above normal across Tennessee last week, while rainfall averaged well above normal in the west and below normal across the rest of the State.

CROP PROGRESS: Through April 17, 2005					CONDITION: On April 15, 2005					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Winter Wheat - Jointed	84	65	82	85	Winter Wheat	1	11	26	51	11
Winter Wheat - Headed	5	na	11	9	Pastures	0	4	26	57	13
Winter Wheat - Top Dressed	95	91	100	100						
Corn - Planted	31	18	67	49						
Corn - Emerged	9	na	26	16						
Apples - Budding or Beyond	87	69	86	91						
Apples - Blooming or Beyond	58	32	68	71						
Peaches - Budding or Beyond	95	88	96	99						
Peaches - Blooming or Beyond	81	72	88	87						

CORN: With warmer, drier weather towards week’s end, producers were able to increase plantings an additional 13 percentage points from the week earlier. Corn planting, at 31 percent completed, lags 10 days behind last year’s accelerated pace and almost a week behind normal. Corn has begun to emerge with some fields already up to stand.

WHEAT: The majority of the wheat crop was rated in mostly good condition. Wheat development is on schedule with 84 percent of the acreage jointed and 5 percent headed. Top dressing neared completion, only slightly behind normal. Some producers are applying fungicide applications, as flag leaf is emerging. As of this time, there have been no serious insect or disease problems.

FRUITS & VEGETABLES: Both the apple and peach crops continued to make good development, with both progressing less than a week behind normal. Strawberries are beginning to bloom.

PASTURES: Pastures were rated in mostly good condition. Farmers continued to spray weeds and apply fertilizer and lime.

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending April 17 th				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	04/17/05	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	82	44	61	+0	1.52	2	19.42	+2.43	42	-8
Tri-City_RGNL_A	80	34	56	+2	1.10	2	11.04	-1.20	33	+29
Brownsville_TN	81	47	63	+3	1.82	3	16.12	-0.68	48	+26
Chattanooga/Lov	81	43	62	+4	0.20	2	14.44	-3.84	54	+29
Clarksville_Sew	79	43	61	+5	0.71	4	13.59	-2.70	44	+17
Cookeville	82	38	59	+3	0.40	2	16.78	-0.89	23	+23
Covington	79	46	61	+2	1.82	1	16.20	-0.54	34	-1
Crossville_AP	76	42	59	+4	0.74	3	16.74	-1.06	28	+21
Dickson_AG	79	41	60	+2	0.30	3	15.66	-1.23	25	-3
Dover_1W	83	42	61	+4	0.52	3	15.00	-1.74	40	+23
Dyersburg	79	46	62	+2	1.38	3	15.91	+0.48	50	+7
Erwin_1W	79	35	56	+3	0.93	2	13.04	-0.72	19	+2
Huntingdon_Wate	81	43	61	+3	1.11	2	13.94	-2.45	36	+13
Jackson_Exp_Stn	81	44	61	+3	1.62	3	18.62	+2.51	43	+10
Kingston_AG	81	40	59	+3	1.03	2	18.24	-0.40	29	+21
Knoxville_AP	81	40	60	+4	0.59	2	11.94	-3.54	56	+41
Lewisburg	79	38	59	+3	0.08	1	15.29	-1.93	21	+3
Lexington_TN	80	43	61	+3	0.42	1	16.05	+0.26	34	+33
Linden	81	41	61	+5	0.31	3	14.83	-2.91	35	+12
Martin	81	42	61	+3	1.22	3	13.57	-2.56	44	+19
Mc_Minnville_Tn	78	40	61	+3	0.23	2	12.47	-4.53	36	-1
Memphis_AG	84	44	62	-2	1.89	2	16.93	+0.32	42	-16
Milan	81	40	61	+3	1.71	2	14.56	-1.83	38	+13
Murfreesboro_5N	80	41	61	+4	0.86	3	16.60	+0.31	44	-10
Nashville_Metro	80	44	63	+5	0.35	2	15.78	+1.10	52	+23
Newcomb	81	36	58	+5	1.39	2	14.85	-1.54	20	+20
Oneida	81	38	58	+6	0.87	4	15.24	-1.15	25	-4
Pikeville	77	39	60	+3	0.22	3	12.56	-5.14	36	+17
Portland_TN	81	44	62	+6	0.16	2	14.46	-1.32	44	+31
Pulaski_Water_P	79	41	60	-2	0.25	2	16.45	-1.55	24	-12
Savannah_6SW	81	45	62	+0	0.66	1	17.53	-0.99	41	+17
Sparta_TN	81	38	60	+4	1.16	3	17.36	+0.19	36	+24
Springfield	80	40	61	+5	0.25	3	14.80	-0.52	38	+23
Springhill	81	42	62	+6	0.49	2	17.82	+0.34	34	+17
Union_City	79	43	60	+3	0.98	3	16.87	+0.96	29	+7

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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